

Side-Light Extraction by Light Pipe-Surface Alteration

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A light pipe with side-light extraction by light pipe-surface alteration includes an optical
light pipe with a plastic light-carrying portion covered with a fluoropolymer cladding. A plurality
of light-extraction devices is spaced along an active section of the light pipe for emission of side
light over only a range from about 2 to 270 degrees of the cross-sectional circumference of the
light pipe in the active section. The light-extraction devices have inlets passing through the
cladding and optically contacting the plastic light-carrying portion. Another form of light pipe
10 with side-light extraction by light pipe-surface alteration includes an optical light pipe with a
plastic light-carrying portion. An active section of the light pipe for side light emission comprises
an axisymmetrical change of area of cross section of the light pipe that generally diminishes
from an inlet end of the active section, through the active section.